

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 OIC-02 AID-05
IGA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00
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O R 042200Z JUN 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
USINT BAGHDAD
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 129464

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLAB, ILO

SUBJECT:ILO: 63RD INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE

REF: GENEVA 4437 (NOTAL, BEING REPEATED)

1. U.S. ILO DELEGATION REPORTS THAT EGYPTIAN DELEGATION,
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WHICH CHAIRS G-77 AT ILO, IS WORKING WITH LIBYA, ALGERIA,
TUNISIA, IRAQ AND, TO SOME EXTENT, SYRIA IN PRESSING
EXTREMIST ARAB POSITIONS AT CRITICAL ILO CONFERENCE.

2. REQUEST YOU SEEK IMMEDIATE APPOINTMENT WITH FAHMY
AND AT YOUR DISCRETION MAKE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. THE OUTCOME OF THE CURRENT ILO CONFERENCE WILL HAVE A MAJOR INFLUENCE ON WHETHER THE U.S. IS ABLE TO CONCLUDE THAT THERE REMAINS SUFFICIENT COMMUNITY OF INTEREST CONCERNING RESPECT FOR ILO PROCEDURES AND CONSTITUTIONAL PRINCIPLES TO JUSTIFY CONTINUED U.S. MEMBERSHIP;

B. THE U.S. DESIRES TO REMAIN IN THE ILO, BUT IT MUST BE CONCERNED WHEN A SPECIALIZED AGENCY IS DIVERTED IN SUCH A MAJOR WAY FROM ITS TECHNICAL OBJECTIVES BY

VIOLATIONS OF LONG ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES AND CONSTITUTIONAL PRINCIPLES.

C. U.S. CONCERN WITH THIS PROBLEM IS NOT RESTRICTED TO THE AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT BUT REFLECTS A GENERAL CONCERN THAT ORGANIZATIONS WHICH LARGELY BENEFIT THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ARE BEING TURNED FROM THEIR COOPERATIVE AND DEVELOPMENTAL OBJECTIVES WHICH ENJOY SOLID U.S. SUPPORT.

D. WE ARE ASKING SUPPORT FOR A POSITION THAT IS IN EVERYONE'S INTEREST--RESPECT FOR PROCEDURES. ON THE ISSUE OF ISRAEL'S ALLEGED DISCRIMINATION IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, FOR EXAMPLE, THERE IS NO EXCUSE OR NEED FOR POLITICALLY MOTIVATED RESOLUTIONS WHICH VIOLATE THE ILO PROCEDURES. UNDER ILO CONVENTION 111 ON DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT, ILO IS CURRENTLY POSING QUESTIONS TO ISRAEL REGARDING ANSWERS IT HAS SUBMITTED
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WITH RESPECT TO EMPLOYMENT IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. ANY NATION CAN SUBMIT FURTHER INFORMATION TO ASSIST IMPARTIAL INVESTIGATION. YET WE UNDERSTAND ARAB DELEGATIONS IN GENEVA ARE PRESSING A RESOLUTION ON ISRAEL NOTWITHSTANDING A JUDGMENT BY ILO LEGAL STAFF THAT THE RESOLUTION IS IN VIOLATION OF ESTABLISHED ILO PROCEDURES.

E. WE DO NOT UNDERSTAND HOW IT COULD BE IN EGYPT'S INTERESTS TO BE SEEN AS THE SPEARHEAD OF EXTREMIST POSITIONS AT THE ILO THAT COULD RESULT IN OUR LEAVING THE ORGANIZATION.

F. AND IT SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED BY ALL CONCERNED THAT "MARTYRING" ISRAEL IN THE ILO WILL SERVE TO RALLY THE ISRAELI PUBLIC AROUND THE HARD-LINERS. SUCH A DEVELOPMENT WOULD ALSO SERVE TO CONFIRM SOME INFLUENTIAL QUARTERS OF THE U.S. PUBLIC IN FAVOR OF A MORE HARD-LINE POSITION.

3. FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND FOR USE AT YOUR DISCRETION, SAUDI ARABIA AND QATAR HAVE PLAYED HELPFUL ROLE IN GENEVA. SAUDIS, IN PARTICULAR, HAVE NOT GIVEN UP HOPE THAT ARAB GROUP CAN BE DISSUADED FROM PRESSING AHEAD WITH EXTREMIST RESOLUTION ON ISRAEL. TUNISIANS HAVE, ON THE OTHER HAND, PLAYED AN UNHELPFUL ROLE AND WE HAVE INSTRUCTED EMBASSY TUNIS TO APPROACH FOREIGN

MINISTER URGENTLY TO URGE AN END TO DESTRUCTIVE AND SURPRISING ROLE TUNISIAN DELEGATE IN GENEVA IS PLAYING WITH HIS COLLEAGUES FROM LIBYA, ALGERIA AND IRAQ.

4. EGYPTIAN EMBASSY CHARGE SHAKER MET WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY MAYNES SATURDAY AFTERNOON JUNE 4 TO DISCUSS ILO SITUATION. FOREGOING POINTS WERE MADE IN OUR CONVERSATION HERE AS WELL. MR. SHAKER STATED THAT CONFIDENTIAL

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THE EGYPTIAN EMBASSY HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO SEE U.S. OFFICIALS NEXT WEEK TO EXPRESS CONCERN OVER EGYPTIAN UNDERSTANDING THAT THE U.S. WAS SEEKING TO PREVENT EVEN PROCEDURALLY CORRECT INVESTIGATION OF ILO COMPLAINTS BY AMENDING ARTICLE 17 TO ALLOW THE OFFICERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY TO BOTTLE UP SUCH COMPLAINTS. CLEARLY, THEN, THE GOE DOES NOT YET UNDERSTAND THE OBJECTIVE OF OUR ARTICLE 17 PROPOSAL. THE GOE DELEGATION IN GENEVA SHOULD BE INSTRUCTED TO CONTACT USDEL (HOROWITZ) FOR FURTHER EXPLANATION. CHRISTOPHER

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